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Message Text

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50
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 SAJ-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03

H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /103 W
---------- 087134
R 280835Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2856
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY SOFIA BY POUCH
USEC BRUSSELS BY POUCH
USMISSION GENEVA BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP RO (CAMPBELL, J. PHIL)
SUBJ: VISIT OF UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CAMPBELL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. UNDER SECRETARY CAMPBELL'S COMPRESSED STAY IN ROMANIA SERVED TO CLARIFY BASIS AND TIMETABLE FOR BALANCED, MUTUALLY-ADVANTAGEOUS EXPANSION OF BILATERAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION. ROMANIANS PROPOSED EARLY JULY DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON TO HAMMER OUT AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT FOR SIGNATURE DURING MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE MICULESCU'S PLANNED SEPTEMBER VISIT. UNDER SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR LIMITED, PRECISELY-FOCUSSED PROGRAM OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION MET WITH SURPRISINGLY POSITIVE GOR RESPONSE. ON EXCHANGE OF STATISTICAL DATA DEPUTY MINISTER CAPISIZU REAFFIRMED ROMANIAN
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PREPAREDNESS TO FURNISH OFT-REQUESTED DATA. END SUMMARY.

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2. DURING ABBREVIATED VISIT MAY 22-25, UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CAMPBELL HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN TRADE AND DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS. TOUR OF FARMING AREAS, WHICH BRACKETED THESE TALKS, AFFORDED UNDER SECRETARY OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW DIVERSIFIED FACILITIES: INST. FOR AGR. RESEARCH AT FUNDULEA, GREENHOUSE COMPLEX, LIVESTOCK FEEDING UNIT, WINE RESEARCH STATION, AND STATE FARM.

3. IN TALKS WITH GOR, UNDER SECRETARY INDICATED PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT THREEFOLD: (1) TO SUGGEST BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL PROGRAM OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AND RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE, (2) TO INITIATE EXCHANGE OF AGRICULTURAL DATA WHICH WOULD FACILITATE USG ASSESSMENT OF FOREIGN DEMAND FOR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, AND (3) TO EXPRESS USG'S INTEREST IN EXPANSION OF TWO-WAY TRADE IN AGRICULTURE. THESE THREE THEMES PROVIDED FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS, RESULTS OF WHICH RELATED IN FOLLOWING PARAS.

4. SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. CITING BUDGETARY STRINGENCIES, UNDER SEC INDICATED THAT USG INTEREST IN LIMITED PROGRAM OF JOINT RESEARCH. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO US WOULD BE COOPERATION IN SUNFLOWER SEEDS, GRAIN DISEASES, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE, AND GERM PLASM, FIELDS IN WHICH ROMANIANS HAD ACHIEVED SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. IN CONTRAST TO EARLIER GOR POSITION WHICH HAD PLUMPED FOR EXTENSIVE PROGRAM, NICOLAE GIOSAN (PRES. OF ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST SCIENCES) AGREED IT NECESSARY TO HAVE NARROWLY-FOCUSSED COOPERATION IN ORDER TO PREVENT EXCHANGES FROM DETERIORATING INTO FORMAL BUREAUCRATIC EXERCISES OR TOURISTIC EXCURSIONS. TO CREATE VIABLE RELATIONSHIP BOTH SIDES WOULD, IN GIOSAN'S VIEW, HAVE TO PLACE CARDS ON TABLE. GIOSAN RECEPTIVE TO UNDER SEC'S PROPOSAL THAT THERE BE EXCHANGE OF TEAMS TO PRODUCE SHORT LIST FROM WHICH FINAL SELECTION WOULD BE MADE. FOR ROMANIA'S PART GIOSAN INDICATED INTEREST IN SORGHUM, SOYBEANS, FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SUNFLOWERS AS WELL AS BROADER AREAS OF MECHANIZATION, APPLICATION OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS AND IRRIGATION.

5. AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT. EXCHANGE OF DATA. UNDER SEC INQUIRED WHETHER GOR HAD HAD CHANCE TO FORMULATE ITS VIEWS
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CONCERNING PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT. HE STRESSED THAT WE VIEWED EXCHANGE OF BASIC AGRICULTURAL DATA AS INTEGRAL PART OF CLOSER AGRICULTURAL RELATIONSHIP. MINISTER CAPISIZU EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US CONCERN INDICATING MINISTER MICULESCU WOULD REVIEW DRAFT UPON HIS RETURN. HE PROPOSED THAT MEETING OF EXPERTS BE HELD IN JULY IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS MODALITIES.
OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON FINAL TEXT FOR

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SIGNATURE DURING MINISTER MICULESCU'S VISIT TO US IN SEPTEMBER. CAPISIZU (AND GIOSAN) ACCEPTED PROPOSAL WITH ALACRITY.

6. COOPERATION IN MTN. UNDER SECRETARY OBSERVED THAT US AND ROMANIA FACED SIMILAR PROBLEMS REGARDING AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH EC, WHICH SEEMED TO FORM BASIS OF COOPERATION DURING MTN. TOWARD THIS END UNDER SEC SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR OUR NEGOTIATORS TO HAVE REGULAR CONSULTATIONS. ROMANIAN'S RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THIS SUGGESTION. CITING EC'S QRS AND UNILATERAL ITALIAN 1974 BAN ON MEAT IMPORTS FROM ROMANIA, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VASILE GLIGA STATED THAT ROMANIA DID NOT WISH TO SEE EC EVOLVE IN WAY WHICH WOULD INCREASE RESTRICTIONS. ECHOING SAME SENTIMENT, DEPY. MIN OF AGRICULTURE STANCIU REMARKED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES HAD THUS FAR BEEN INADEQUATELY ORGANIZED TO COMBAT EC TRADE-RESTRICTIVE ACTS SUCH AS IMPOSITION OF HIGH TAXES ON IMPORTED VEGETABLES AND MEAT PRODUCTS.

7. OTHER TRADE ISSUES. VARIETY OF OTHER TRADE QUESTIONS AROSE DURING CALLS:

A. PESTICIDES. MIN OF STATE NICOLAE NICOLAE SAID THAT GOR HAD IMPRESSION THAT PESTICIDE LEGISLATION WAS DISGUISED NTB BUT HAD BEEN ABLE TO ADJUST TO ISOLATING PORK PRODUCTION ON AGRICULTURAL UNITS NOT USING DDT. UNDER SEC CAMPBELL ASSURED NICOLAE AND MINAG OFFICIALS THAT LAW HAD EVEN MORE PROFOUND EFFECT ON US FARMER AND WAS NOT INTENDED AS IMPORT RESTRICTION.

B. CCC. SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY ONLY NICOLAE RAISED CCC CREDITS, INDICATING THAT GOR HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH CREDITS AND, ASSUMING MFN EXTENDED, WOULD SEEK CREDITS AS NEEDS DICTATED.
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C. ROMANIAN EXPORTS. STANCIU STATED THAT GOR HOPED TO DOUBLE CURRENT $9-10 MILLION LEVEL OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO US THIS YEAR. HE REQUESTED USDA ASSISTANCE IN HELPING ROMANIA PENETRATE US WINE MARKET. UNDER SEC STATED ASSISTANCE OF THIS KIND NOT IN USDA'S PURVIEW BUT THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD SOLICIT DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AID IN IDENTIFYING IMPORTERS. EARLIER NICOLAE REFERRED TO EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP ESTABLISHED WITH ATALANTA, WHICH HE INDICATED WOULD SERVE AS MODEL FOR OTHER AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

D. COOPERATION IN THIRD COUNTRIES. CAPISIZU EXPRESSED INTEREST IN COOPERATING IN THIRD COUNTRIES, PERHAPS BY SUPPLYING NEEDS OR FARM MACHINERY IN SUPPORT OF USG AGRICULT-

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URAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. UNDER SEC OBSERVED USG ACTIVITY
IS LARGELY UNDER AEGIS OF AID-FINANCED PROGRAM GOVERNED
BY COMPLEX AID LEGISLATION. EMBOFF POINTED OUT WE CURRENTLY
SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF AID COMMODITY PROCUREMENT
REGULATIONS FOR MFT AND WOULD PASS RESPONSE TO MINAG
AS WELL.

8. COMMENT. UNDER SECRETARY'S SOLID PROFESSIONAL GROUNDING
AND EASY GEORGIAN HUMOR SET TONE OF VISIT WHICH WE APPRAISE
AS MARKING SUBSTANTIAL MOVE FORWARD TOWARD ESTABLISHING CLOSER
BILATERAL RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURE DOMAIN. ROMANIANS WERE
CLEARLY PLEASED BY VISIT AND BY SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE
REGARD POTENTIAL FOR EXPANSION OF BILATERAL PROGRAMS.
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